

February 27, 1961

Dr. Francis J. Ryan
Professor of Zoology
Columbia University
New York 27, New York

Dear Francis:

Ruth Sager spent some time here as you know. The question has come up as to her suitability for a position in the Biology Department. Although I do not believe we were contemplating an appointment at a level that would attract her, both she and the Department deserve the benefit of a very careful evaluation. If you could enlarge on this, we would all appreciate it very much. Although I am undertaking to ask the favor, it might be most appropriate if your reply was directed to Victor Twitty.

I understand you are taking on the chore of executing Zoology for a while. Is there any hope of reinfusing biochemical genetics or microbiology, or is this a sign of acquiescence with the establishment?

Esther and I are hoping to be in New York for the Alexander Hamilton Awards on April 11 and would be delighted to see you then if at all possible. Our further plans are still uncertain, as we may be going on to Florence or just back home the next day. We are anxious to have your impressions of Israel.

Yours cordially,

Joshua Lederberg
Professor of Genetics

cc: Dr. Twitty